

Length of carapace, nearly 4 lines; breadth at umbo, rather more than 2 lines.

Hab. Lake Winnipeg, N. America (*W. Caldwell, Esq.*). (*Mus. Brit.*)

7. *LIMNETIS GOULDII*, Baird. (Plate XV. figs. 7, 7 a, 7 b, 7 c.)

Carapace nearly quite globular, ventricose, and of a light horn-colour. Surface of valves smooth, not ribbed, and covered entirely with numerous very small hollow punctations exactly resembling those on the top of a thimble. The point to which the adductor muscles are attached is very marked, being slightly prominent, and very smooth and shining; and the branchial canals on the surface of the valves are strongly exhibited.

This species resembles very much *L. wahlbergii* of Lovén, from Port Natal. In addition, however, to the total difference of habitat, this species differs from the one described by Lovén in size, being double the dimensions of it. The animal, too, differs in some particulars; but as all the specimens I have examined are males, and the one figured by Lovén is a female, I do not know how far these differences may be merely sexual.

Diameter of carapace, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ line.

Hab. Fresh water at St. Ann's, twenty miles from Montreal, Canada. Collected by Charles Gould, Esq., June, 1857. (*Mus. Brit.*)

6. NOTE ON *FURINA TEXTILIS*. BY GERARD KREFFT, ACTING CURATOR AUSTR. MUS.

During my rambles in the neighbourhood of Sydney I have found a number of small Snakes, varying in length from 8 to 12", and answering to the description given by Duméril and Bibron of *Furina textilis*. None of the specimens obtained have exceeded 16" in length; and I have been naturally anxious to procure the young of this species. During two years I was unsuccessful, and I began to think at last that this Snake was only the immature form of some other species, which supposition became a belief when some months ago I found an egg containing as large a specimen of *Furina textilis* as I had ever met with before. On further investigation I found that the distinct bands and black spots of this Snake faded with the growth of the individual, and apparently vanished altogether in old specimens. As the egg and young in my possession are of a size generally produced by Snakes from 3 to 4 feet in length, and as I have a series of specimens in which the disappearance of the bands and markings may be clearly traced, I do not hesitate to assert that *Pseudonaja textilis* is only a young Snake. Inviting the scrutiny of more able naturalists than myself to this fact, I beg to refer at the same time to my collection forwarded to the International Exhibition, specimens Nos. 66 and 40, which I believe to be identical.

I have since forwarded a full-grown adult Snake of this species to

Dr. Günther, which I have stuffed, as in the dry specimens the remains of the rings on the body may be better observed than when preserved in spirits. I have been unable to find any description in Duméril and Bibron of the large *Furina* of which I suppose the *F. textilis* to be the young; and, not being in possession of the British Museum Catalogue, I do not know whether this Snake has been described at all.

7. NOTE ON THE DEER OF FORMOSA. BY P. L. SCLATER, M.A.,
PH.D., F.R.S., SECRETARY TO THE SOCIETY.

(Plates XVI., XVII.)

In some remarks on the Japanese Deer received by the Society in 1860, which I made before the meeting of this Society in the month of November of that year*, I gave some reasons for considering *Cervus sika* of the 'Fauna Japonica,' *Cervus pseudaxis* of the French naturalists, and Dr. Gray's *Rusa japonica* as probably synonyms of the same species. In a communication made to the Society in the following year, Dr. Gray ultimately admits that his *Rusa japonica* is probably the same as *Cervus sika*, "though it differs so much from the figure and description of that animal in the 'Fauna Japonica'†;" and I believe there is now little doubt upon this point. Mr. Westerman, the Director of the Gardens of the Zoological Society of Amsterdam, to whom we parted with a pair of these Japanese Deer in 1861, has informed me that he was previously well acquainted with the species, and that it is certainly identical with the type of *Cervus sika* in the Leyden Museum. Since the arrival of the first example of this Deer (the pair presented to the Society by Mr. Wilks, July 21, 1860), we have received several others. In September, 1861, a female arrived from our Corresponding Member, Mr. Blyth of Calcutta, being one of the examples he has commented upon in the 'Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal' (xxx. p. 90); and in June of the same year we purchased a pair of these animals, the male of which was subsequently parted with to Mr. Westerman. On the 31st of August, 1861, the female presented by Mr. Wilks produced a male calf; and there seems every probability of this Deer doing well in this country.

With regard, however, to the Formosan Deer (*Cervus taëvanus* or *taiouanus*), I was certainly wrong in supposing it to be the same as the Japanese *Cervus sika*. Knowing nothing about it, except from Mr. Blyth's description, I supposed that he who created the species was to be trusted when he destroyed it. I therefore put faith in what Mr. Blyth wrote in a letter to me (dated July 4th, 1860), that he was then "satisfied" that the Formosan and Japanese Deer were of "one and the same species." It appears, however, from what Mr. Swinhoe says (see P. Z. S. 1860, p. 235), that all the living Deer

* See P. Z. S. 1860, p. 375.

† P. Z. S. 1861, p. 238.